

What is claimed is:

1. In combination:

a fluid filter centerpost assembly comprising:

- 5 a main body defining a flow opening and an open interior and
 having an oval shape in lateral cross section;
 an oval-shaped radial flange;
 an oval-shaped interior shelf defining a flow opening and being
 positioned on an incline in said open interior;
10 a closing cap assembled into said main body; and
 a movable valve ball positioned on said interior shelf; and

a fluid filter cartridge received by said fluid filter centerpost assembly comprising:

- a filtering media;
 a closed endcap assembled to one end of said filtering media, said
15 closed endcap including a blocking pin;
 an open endcap assembled to another end of said filtering media;
 and
 an oval-shaped seal received by said open endcap and being
20 positioned around said main body and resting on said radial flange.

2. The combination of claim 1 wherein said main body is a unitary, molded plastic structure.

3. The combination of claim 2 wherein said interior shelf defines a track for
25 guiding the movement of said valve ball.